

From: Donini-Melanson, Brandy (USAMA)
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 11:16:32 AM
Subject: DRAFT AGENDA
Sensitivity: Normal
Attachments:
[CounternarrativesAgendarev.docx](#) ;

Per my original email, attached is the draft agenda for a summit on **Challenging Violent Extremist Messages**. I don't have a good draft for the *Violent Extremism Awareness Training*. I'll send that to you as soon as I can.

From: Donini-Melanson, Brandy (USAMA)
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:52 PM
Subject: REMINDER: Conference Call/Friday, March 13th 2:30-3:30

Just a reminder about the conference call tomorrow, **Friday, March 13th, from 2:30-4 p.m.**, **Please call [REDACTED] and enter the code [REDACTED]**.

(For those who aren't able to join us, I'll follow-up with an email and perhaps we can arrange a time to talk next week or shortly thereafter.)

From: Donini-Melanson, Brandy (USAMA)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 1:37 PM
Subject: Conference Call/Friday, March 13th 2:30-3:30

On **Friday, March 13th from 2:30-4 p.m.**, we will hold a conference call to discuss next steps for the pilot initiative. **Please call [REDACTED] and enter the code [REDACTED]**.

The entire call will be discussion-based. The agenda is very focused so please be prepared and mindful of time constraints. Additionally, please let me know if you are UNABLE to join the call. If you would like to offer your feedback prior to the call, I'd love to hear from you. *If you would like to maintain a limited role in the project moving forward, please let me know so I can find a way to customize my contact with you.*

AGENDA

- **White House Summit Update and Funding Clarification**
- **The Role of the Collaborative Moving Forward (15 mins)**
 - What role does the Collaborative play now that the framework has been developed?
 - What suggestions do you have about how to move the work forward – either with or without the Collaborative?
 - Are there others (e.g. experts, faith-based leaders, NGOs, gov't) that should be brought into the effort to help address a particular problem area/solution?
- **Organizational/Agency Commitments & Interests (15 mins)**
 - Are there *particular* solutions that you (your agency/organization) are interested in implementing?
 - What is precluding you from initiating a solution (i.e. staffing, resources, complexity of the issues, etc.)?
 - When organizations/agencies, particularly those who are not a part of the Collaborative, carry out solutions independently, how do we ensure that there is some level of communication so that we are able to effectively measure progress and assess additional needs/gaps?
- **Measuring Performance (10 mins)**
 - The framework references many solutions. Developing metrics for each solution may prove difficult. Do we prioritize the development of metrics based on the solutions that the collaborative organizations/agencies are interested in implementing – do we focus on those solutions that are listed in the “next steps”?
- **Training and Awareness (15 mins)**
 - *Trauma-Informed Care and Crisis Intervention Training* - Would there be interest from non-governmental organizations in a 3-day training on trauma-informed care and crisis intervention training? This will better inform organizations about *how* to work with those experiencing trauma or crisis. Public Health has a program that can be customized for a range of non-governmental organizations, street workers, faith-based organizations and others. And there are other providers who can offer expertise on this issue. Should this opportunity include select media representative so they have background and are more informed?
 - *Violent Extremism Awareness Training (including specific discussions about radicalization and “mobilization”)* – With some help of others, the USAO has begun to develop draft training agendas that can be reviewed and modified by experts for a range of audiences. I'll share those agendas with you before the conference call so you can weigh in. Please give some thought on best ways to enhance awareness. We'd like to schedule trainings in May.
 - *Summit: Challenging Violent Extremist Messages* – With some help of others, the USAO has developed a draft agenda for a summit. I'll share that agenda with you before the conference call so you can weigh in. We'd like to schedule the training in May. Should this opportunity include select media representative so they have background and are more informed? (Also note that the *Institute for Strategic Dialogue* in London will be in Boston on March 31st from 9-11 a.m. I'll send out a notice on the location for that presentation.)
 - *Making Prevention Programs More Effective* – Would there be interest from non-government organizations on a training from experts about

how to make prevention programs more effective and focused?

- **Enhancing Youth Dialogues (15 mins)**
 - Where do we start?
 - How do we prioritize and organize the dialogues?
 - What do those dialogues “look like”?
 - How can we work with youth-serving organizations, schools and existing youth committees/councils to integrate efforts?
 - Do we have a small group who focuses on this project?
- **Developing a Resource Guide (10 mins)**
 - Who is interested in being a part of a small working group on this?
 - What are some ideas about what the resource guide should include, how should it be marketed, etc.?
- **Conclusion – Summary of discussion (5 mins)**

Looking forward to talking to you next week!

Brandy

Brandy Donini-Melanson

Law Enforcement Coordinator

U.S. Attorney’s Office

1 Courthouse Way, Ste. 9200

Boston, MA 02210



SUMMIT

CHALLENGING VIOLENT EXTREMIST MESSAGES

Date: TBD

Location: TBD, Greater Boston Region

DRAFT TRAINING PLAN

8:50 AM – 4:20 PM

AUDIENCE: Combined gov't and non-government audience.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- To increase awareness regarding the narratives used by violent extremists to recruit individuals and provide strategies for developing counter-narratives.
- To increase awareness by government representatives regarding the narratives by violent extremists and the roles of non-government and government so they may engage effectively and appropriately.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Many have expressed an interest in developing counter-narratives to violent extremist propaganda; however, many are unfamiliar with the propaganda that has been developed and how it is being disseminated. Additionally, some non-governmental stakeholders have expressed confusion about where to start and who can help work them develop strategies.
- Many in government have stated that there is an overall need for counter-narratives to violent extremist propaganda. Some have expressed a desire to assist non-government in developing counter-narratives, but lack basic awareness regarding the sensitivities of government involvement. Training regarding those sensitivities is imperative to avoid damaging credible community voices.

LENGTH OF TRAINING: 7.5 hours

POSSIBLE TRAINERS: Subject-matter experts from academia and organizations will be contracted to provide assistance. Technical providers will be identified to assist with the breakout session.

GENERAL LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will gain basic information about violent extremist messaging and the emotional appeal.
- Participants will be able to identify different media and platforms that are being used and can be used to deliver information.
- Participants will be able to distinguish between ineffective and effective ways to counter violent extremist propaganda.
- Non-government participants will gain hands-on experience working with a group to develop ideas to counter violent extremist messaging.
- Government participants will be able to identify effective ways in which government may assist non-government with countering propaganda developed and used by violent extremists.

*****DRAFT** Summit: Challenging Violent Extremist Messages***

U.S. Attorney's Office, 1 Courthouse Way, Ste. 9200, Boston

Contact: Brandy Donini-Melanson, Law Enforcement Coordinator, [REDACTED]

TRAINING TOPICS/DRAFT AGENDA:

- 8:50 a.m. Welcome and Introduction by U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz (10 mins)**
- 9:00 a.m. Violent Extremism Overview (30 mins)**
- First Amendment considerations
 - Radicalization - what is/what isn't
 - Why do the messages of violent extremists resonate
 - How do individuals gain exposure to messages of violent extremists and how has it changed with technology
- 9:30 a.m. Online Engagement and Other Considerations by U.S. Department of Justice (30 mins)**
- First Amendment clarification
 - Viewing violent extremist content
 - Responding to extremist content to which a person disagrees
 - What does it mean to incite violence or material support to terrorists
- 10:00 a.m. Break (15 mins)**
- 10:15 a.m. The Counter-Messaging Spectrum (30 mins)**
- What are alternative narratives
 - What are counter-narratives
 - Roles of civil society and roles of government
- 10:45 a.m. Violent Extremist Messaging: A Review of the Narratives (1 hour)**
- Show range of messages by different extremist groups
 - Show publications, literature, videos, audio, gaming
 - Show a variety of messages that demonstrate appeal to diverse groups
- 11:45 a.m. Break/Lunch retrieval (30 mins)**
- 12:15 p.m. WORKING LUNCH (perhaps reps from Google, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter) (45 mins)**
- 1:00 p.m. Break (10 mins)**
- 1:15 p.m. Lessons Learned: A Review of Counter-Messaging Efforts (20 mins)**
- Provide specific examples of ineffective counter-messaging efforts
- 1:35 p.m. Effective Alternative Narratives and Counter-Narratives (30 mins)**
- Provide specific examples of effective narratives
 - What are the attributes of effective narratives
 - Generating interest and online "traffic",
- 2:05 p.m. Breakout Sessions (1.25 hours)**

*****DRAFT** Summit: Challenging Violent Extremist Messages***

U.S. Attorney's Office, 1 Courthouse Way, Ste. 9200, Boston

Contact: Brandy Donini-Melanson, Law Enforcement Coordinator, [REDACTED]

NON-GOVERNMENT BREAKOUT

- 2:05 p.m. Creating a New Narrative - Overview of Breakout Project (10 mins)**
- Participants will be given different types of narratives to explore and will be given the opportunity to pick one for a breakout.
 - Participants will be divided into smaller groups and paired with an expert facilitator, content development director, flash designer/web designer/graphic designer, communication/marketing expert
- 2:15 p.m. Move to breakout rooms (15 mins)**
- 2:30 p.m. Creating a New Narrative (breakout) (1 hour)**
- Groups will brainstorm concepts, develop scripts and map out visual design ideas
 - Groups will actually create a rough draft narrative.

(NOTE: IF THERE IS INTEREST, NON-GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPANTS WILL BE PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN A SMALLER WORKSHOP TO BE PROVIDED AT A LATER DATE.)

GOVERNMENT BREAKOUT

- 2:05 p.m. Government's Role in Counter-messaging: Understanding Limitations and Specific Ways to Assist Non-Government (45 mins)**
- Provide specific examples of how government can best assist
 - Cautions against specific types of assistance
- 2:50 p.m. TBD**

-
- 3:30 p.m. Break/Move back to plenary (10 mins)**
- 3:40 p.m. Presentation of Draft Narratives (30 minutes)**
- 4:10 p.m. Closeout – Next Steps - Evaluation (10 mins)**

From: Solet, David (NOR)
Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2014 4:42:00 PM
To: 'Donini-Melanson, Brandy (USAMA)'
Subject: RE: TIME CHANGE: Invitation (Dec. 3 @ 3:00) - VTC w/ WORDE (RE: Countering Violent Extremism Program)
Sensitivity: Normal

Sorry I was not able to attend, Brandy, I am in the middle of impaneling a jury for a homicide case.

Dave Solet

From: Donini-Melanson, Brandy (USAMA) [mailto:Brandy.Donini-Melanson@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 2:15 PM
To: 'andrea.hall@bmc.org'; Joan.Taglieri@bmc.org; jamesf.oconnor@pd.boston.gov; thomas.sexton@pd.boston.gov; pames@cambridgepolice.org; Haas, Robert; heidi.ellis@childrens.harvard.edu; john_Horgan@uml.edu; daniel.mulhern@boston.gov; jelgee@bostonpublicschools.org; Mazzie, Steven A.; Schwartz, Kurt (EPS); Ramsey, Kieran L. (FBI); Durkin, Susan T. (FBI); Suelen, Darwin C. (FBI); agilligan@doe.mass.edu; Pinals, Debra (DMH); Range, Scott (POL); Solet, David (NOR); scottjh@nctc.gov; Fredette, David (SUF); Chakravarty, Aloke (USAMA); donald.baynard@umb.edu; Sencabaugh, Scott; rafein@comcast.net; eleanor.joseph@boston.gov; Paul Fitzgerald (paul.fitzgerald@pd.boston.gov); Kelly Nee (kelly.nee@pd.boston.gov); lydia.khalil@pd.boston.gov; Jennifer Maconochie; Farmer, James; Henderson, Cara; Brad Stewart (bradfoss@nctc.gov)
Subject: TIME CHANGE: Invitation (Dec. 3 @ 3:00) - VTC w/ WORDE (RE: Countering Violent Extremism Program)
Importance: High

Note time change for Wednesday's VTC. It has been moved to 3 p.m. No pressure if you can't attend, but if you do plan to attend, please let me know today.
Thanks.

From: Donini-Melanson, Brandy (USAMA)
Sent: Monday, November 24, 2014 3:42 PM
To: 'andrea.hall@bmc.org'; 'Joan.Taglieri@bmc.org'; 'jamesf.oconnor@pd.boston.gov'; 'thomas.sexton@pd.boston.gov'; 'pames@cambridgepolice.org'; 'rhaas@cambridgepolice.org'; 'heidi.ellis@childrens.harvard.edu'; 'john_Horgan@uml.edu'; 'daniel.mulhern@boston.gov'; 'jelgee@bostonpublicschools.org'; 'steven.mazzie@ci.everett.ma.us'; 'kurt.schwartz@state.ma.us'; Ramsey, Kieran L. (FBI); 'Durkin, Susan T.'; Suelen, Darwin C. (FBI); 'agilligan@doe.mass.edu'; 'debra.pinals@state.ma.us'; 'scott.range@state.ma.us'; 'david.solet@state.ma.us'; 'scottjh@nctc.gov'; 'david.fredette@state.ma.us'; 'aloke.chakravarty@usdoj.gov'; 'donald.baynard@umb.edu'; 'ssencabaugh@wpd.org'; 'rafein@comcast.net'; 'eleanor.joseph@boston.gov'; Paul Fitzgerald (paul.fitzgerald@pd.boston.gov); Kelly Nee (kelly.nee@pd.boston.gov); lydia.khalil@pd.boston.gov; Jennifer Maconochie; Farmer, James (USAMA); Henderson, Cara (USAMA) (CHenderson2@usa.doj.gov); Brad Stewart (bradfoss@nctc.gov)
Subject: Invitation (Dec. 3 @ 3:1500) - VTC w/ WORDE (RE: Countering Violent Extremism Program)

Afternoon. The U.S. Attorney's Office will be hosting a video teleconference (VTC) with an organization called [WORDE](#) in Montgomery County, Maryland. Dr. Hedieh Mirahmadi, president of WORDE, will provide an overview of the Montgomery County Model to counter violent extremism. The [model](#) is a community-led, public-private partnership rooted in interfaith collaboration.

The VTC will be held on **Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 3:15 3:00 p.m. in the Press Room on the 9th floor** of the Moakley Federal Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Way, Boston, MA. (FYI - Representatives from the Los Angeles and Minneapolis pilots will be on the VTC as well.)

Please don't feel obligated to attend. I just didn't want to exclude you. I'm sending the announcement to the other working group who will likely have more of an interest since it is a community-led initiative.

Please let me know if you plan to attend by **Monday, Dec. 1st**. I may need to reserve the Library if there is a lot of interest.

Best,
Brandy

Brandy Donini-Melanson
Law Enforcement Coordinator
U.S. Attorney's Office
1 Courthouse Way, Ste. 9200
Boston, MA 02210
[REDACTED]

From: Solet, David (NOR)

Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 7:08:26 PM

To: Donini-Melanson, Brandy (USAMA)

Subject: Re: DEADLINE (Friday 2pm) - FINAL FRAMEWORK - Countering Violent Extremism

Sensitivity: Normal

Thank you! I know this has taken a ton of work to put together. I hope you can exhale when you hit the "send" button.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 6, 2015, at 7:07 PM, "Donini-Melanson, Brandy (USAMA)" <Brandy.Donini-Melanson@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Yep. I am literally getting ready to send. Will make the change right now. Thanks.

From: Solet, David (DAA) [<mailto:david.solet@state.ma.us>]

Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 7:06 PM

To: Donini-Melanson, Brandy (USAMA)

Subject: Re: DEADLINE (Friday 2pm) - FINAL FRAMEWORK - Countering Violent Extremism

Hi Brandy - sorry I am a little past the deadline. If there is time to make the change, my formal title is General Counsel, Middlesex District Attorney's Office.

David Solet

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 5, 2015, at 11:28 AM, "Donini-Melanson, Brandy (USAMA)" <Brandy.Donini-Melanson@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Attached is the (almost) final framework in Word and PDF. Thank you all for your rewrites and AMAZING feedback! U.S. Attorney Ortiz needs to add a message to the document and I have to put in place the page numbers, but we think the content is remarkably solid and frames things with the right balance. All of those minor changes will be finalized tomorrow. (By the way, we would have liked to have added some graphics and tables, but we just don't have time to put those together.)

You'll note that we outlined a "next steps". This is just a sampling of the solutions that the U.S. Attorney's Office thought we could manage collectively over the next year. I am certain that there will be much more that we can accomplish, but this is a pretty good start. We expect individual organizations and agencies will be able to make their own commitments, but we didn't want to state those for you.

I have four final asks of you:

- **Document Review** - Please review the document. If you have major concerns with the content, please contact me immediately, [REDACTED]. There are a lot of reviewers in play and we could make minor changes forever, so I ask that you only let me know if you have major concerns and I'll see what I can do to resolve those.
- **Appendix A** – This is a list of the contributors (Working Group members) to the framework. If you would prefer that your organization be referenced as opposed to your name, please let me know ASAP. **If you don't want your name referenced, please let me know ASAP (no later than 2 pm tomorrow).**
- **Letters of Commitment** - If your organization or agency would like to specifically state its commitment to any of the solutions, we would love to include that in the Appendix. I've received a few already, but wanted to make another ask. I need the letters on your letterhead by **2 pm tomorrow (Friday, Feb. 6th)**.
- **Dissenting Views** – I truly hope that we've addressed all of your concerns throughout the process, but in the event that we have been unable to work through them, we want to give you an opportunity to outline those in Appendix D. I need those letters on letterhead by **2 pm tomorrow (Friday, Feb. 6th)**. If you would like to discuss this more, please contact me [REDACTED].

Finally, I want to thank you all again for your insight and incredible support throughout the process. It has been an incredible (personal and professional) experience. After the summit on Feb. 18th, we'll regroup. By the way, I head out on vacation

from Feb. 7 - Feb. 14th, so I will be out of pocket for a week. You can reach me today and tomorrow on my mobile, [REDACTED].

Brandy

Brandy Donini-Melanson

Law Enforcement Coordinator

U.S. Attorney's Office

1 Courthouse Way, Ste. 9200

Boston, MA 02210

[REDACTED]